

MONOCLE

INSIDE: MÁLAGA MODERNISM THE BEST CITY FIXERS
ICE CREAM SCOOP PIT STOP TREATS SUMMER SOUNDS

(M) A to F AFFAIRS: Are e-vehicles elitist? **BUSINESS:** Let's build the perfect ferry **CULTURE:** Singapore's cinema resurgence
DESIGN: A healthy dose of Aalto **ENTERTAINING:** Zürich's recipe for revival **FASHION:** The retailers that create neighbourhoods



New growers



High places



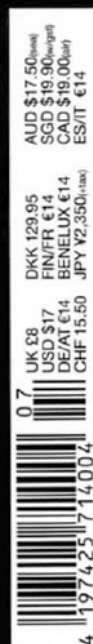
Sunny cafés



THE CITY WINNERS

From parks to planning, the metropolises that are building back bigger and better.

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Bold beaches



Cool homes



Fun cities

+ i RIDING THE WAVE Portugal's best seaside shacks and snacks **NEW HOTELS** London, Baja California and Beirut
get fresh outposts of happy hospitality **RETURN TO THE BEACH** A guide to the tribes you'll encounter on the summer sand



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Lisbon

Displaying unity of purpose.

Lisbon breathed a sigh of relief when tourists were allowed back into Portugal in May, just in time for the summer season. Much of city hall's efforts during the past 18 months had been about mitigating the impact of the more than 80 per cent drop in visitor numbers. With the hospitality and restaurant sectors badly hit, the Lisboa Protege programme was launched in November 2020 with the aim of protecting jobs and wages via €90m of funds and tax exemptions. It was a critical lifeline to many families and businesses.

The past year has also inspired some longer-term fixes for the city. A "safe rent" programme, in which city hall leases properties from private landlords on five-year contracts, then sublets them at accessible prices to residents, found some momentum. Given the dramatic decline in Airbnb bookings, the programme kills two birds with one stone: it offers property owners some financial security and helps to address the city's lack of affordable housing.

There has also been a fresh opportunity for Lisbon residents to appreciate what the city gets right. Without the crowds of tourists and tuk-tuks, Lisbon's good looks, proximity to nature, agreeable weather and social cohesion became ever more apparent. Citizens have come together in endearing ways to help one another, such as the welcome revival of farmers markets as a means of helping to offset the losses suffered by producers due to closed restaurants. — GSL

Metrics:

Population: 505,000 in the city;
2,000,000 in the metropolitan area

Unemployment: 7.7%

Public parks: 113

Infrastructure projects: Lisbon plans to have 200km of cycle paths by the end of the year; a further 80 bike-sharing stations should be in place by then.

What needs fixing: The city has to reconsider how the tourism industry can safeguard residents' interests.

